

TABLE 2 Conversion of substrates to biomass, CO₂, organic acids, and H₂ by *R. palustris* during exponential growth^a

Substrate	Yield (mol/mol organic C consumed) ^b													
	Doubling time (h)		Biomass ^c		CO ₂		Organic acids ^d		H ₂		% C recovery ^e		% electron recovery ^e	
	WT	NifA ⁺	WT	NifA ⁺	WT	NifA ⁺	WT	NifA ⁺	WT	NifA ⁺	WT	NifA ⁺	WT	NifA ⁺
Fumarate	10.6 ± 1.0 ^f	13.2 ± 0.8 ^f	62 ± 3	47 ± 2	28 ± 1	29 ± 1	12 ± 2	30 ± 3	18 ± 3 ^g	101 ± 5	106 ± 2	104 ± 6	109 ± 3	
Succinate	6.5 ± 0.4	8.2 ± 0.5	82 ± 3	67 ± 3	15 ± 1	27 ± 1	0.1 ± 0.0	0.1 ± 0.0	23 ± 1	97 ± 4	94 ± 3	106 ± 4	99 ± 3	
Acetate ^h	8.4 ± 0.6	9.4 ± 0.6	88 ± 8	79 ± 4	6 ± 1	17 ± 2	0	0	21 ± 3	93 ± 8	96 ± 5	98 ± 9	99 ± 5	
Butyrate-HCO ₃ ⁻	8.6 ± 0.4	10.7 ± 1.0	83 ± 6	84 ± 6	-18 ± 4	-11 ± 3	28 ± 3	23 ± 5	11 ± 3	94 ± 5	97 ± 5	97 ± 5	99 ± 8	
Butyrate	No growth	32.4 ± 7.6		67 ± 12		6 ± 1		24 ± 2	41 ± 10		97 ± 14		96 ± 15	

^a Unlabeled cultures were grown in minimal medium with NH₄⁺ as the nitrogen source. Values are averages from 3 to 5 biological replicates ± SD based on samples taken during early exponential growth.

^b Values are normalized for organic C consumed to account for acetate having two carbon atoms, whereas the other substrates have four. Negative signs indicate that there was a net consumption of CO₂, which was made possible by the NaHCO₃ supplement.

^c Moles of biomass were determined from the *R. palustris* 42OL elemental composition (25): CH_{1.8}N_{0.18}O_{0.38} (mole weight, 22.426 g/mol).

^d Malate was excreted during growth on fumarate, fumarate was excreted during growth on succinate, and acetate was excreted during growth on butyrate.

^e The percentage of organic carbon and electrons consumed that were observed in products. The sum of the values in biomass, CO₂, and organic acids would equal 100 for full carbon recovery. Electron recovery was based on available hydrogen as described previously (7, 26).

^f Growth rates during the second growth phase on fumarate.

^g Calculated by grouping fumarate and malate as a single metabolite [i.e., dH₂/d(fumarate + malate) × 100/4 carbon atoms]. The H₂ yield from fumarate consumed alone would give a value of 12 ± 2.

^h The acetate data were previously published (7).